

## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

COPY MAILED

DEC 0 6 2006

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

FITCH EVEN TABIN AND FLANNERY 120 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET SUITE 1600 CHICAGO IL 60603-3406

In re Patent No. 6.399,176

Issued: June 4, 2004

Application No. 09/269,723

Filed: June 1, 1999

Patentee: Hubert François

**NOTICE** 

This is a notice regarding your request for acceptance of a fee deficiency submission under 37 CFR 1.28. On September 1, 1998, the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit held that 37 CFR 1.28(c) is the sole provision governing the time for correction of the erroneous payment of the issue fee as a small entity. See DH Technology v. Synergystex International, Inc. 154 F.3d 1333, 47 USPO2d 1865 (Fed. Cir. Sept. 1, 1998).

The Office no longer investigates or rejects original or reissue applications under 37 CFR 1.56. 1098 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 502 (January 3, 1989). Therefore, nothing in this Notice is intended to imply that an investigation was done.

Your fee deficiency submission under 37 CFR 1.28 is hereby ACCEPTED.

This application no longer qualifies for small entity status. Accordingly, all future fees must be paid at the large entity rate.

Inquiries related to this communication should be directed to the Office of Petitions Staff at (571) 272-3282.

Sherry D. Brinkley
Petitions Examiner

Office of Petitions